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REPORT  
No. 599

## RAMUTE ALEXANDRA VAILOKAITIS

JUNE 19, 1951.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

Mr. FEIGHAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 677]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 677) for the relief of Ramute Alexandra Vailokaitis, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendment and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

That for the purposes of the immigration and naturalization laws, Ramute Alexandra Vailokaitis shall be held and considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of the enactment of this Act, upon the payment of the required visa fee and head tax. Upon the granting of permanent residence to such alien as provided for in this Act, the Secretary of State shall instruct the proper quota officer to deduct one number from the number of displaced persons who shall be granted the status of permanent residence pursuant to section 4 of the Displaced Persons Act, as amended (62 Stat. 1011; 64 Stat. 219; 50 U. S. C. App. 1953).

#### PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill, as amended, is to grant permanent residence in the United States to a native of Lithuania. The bill also provides for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax and for the appropriate quota deduction.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The pertinent facts in this case are set forth in a letter dated March 29, 1951, from the Deputy Attorney General to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, which letter reads as follows:

MARCH 29, 1951.

Hon. EMANUEL CELLER,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice concerning the bill (H. R. 677) for the relief of Ramute Alexandra Vailokaitis, an alien.

The bill would provide that Ramute Alexandra Vailokaitis shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of May 14, 1949, upon the payment of the required head tax. It would further direct the Attorney General to cancel any warrant of arrest, order of deportation, warrant of deportation and bond, if any, in the case of the alien. The bill would also direct the Secretary of State to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate immigration quota.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that Miss Vailokaitis is a native of Lithuania, having been born in Kaunas, Lithuania, on July 30, 1924. She is a permanent resident of Canada. It appears that the alien last entered the United States from Canada on May 14, 1949, as a temporary visitor under section 3 (2) of the Immigration Act of 1924. She was granted extensions of her temporary stay until March 10, 1950, after which she failed to apply for further extensions, and is now unlawfully residing in the United States.

Subsequent to the Russian occupation of Lithuania, the alien resided in the British zone of Germany. Miss Vailokaitis stated that she desired to leave Germany and come to her family in the United States. She stated that in order to accomplish this, she entered Canada as a displaced person on October 16, 1947. To so enter, it was required that she agree to work as a domestic in Canada for 1 year. She was so employed in Toronto for that period. Since her arrival in this country as a visitor, she has been residing with her married sister, Mrs. William McClain, who entered the United States in 1939 as a visitor, and who was naturalized in November 1946.

It appears that the alien's mother entered the United States on July 19, 1947, she having been in possession of a preference quota visa, and was admitted for permanent residence. The record further discloses that the alien has another sister, Banute Jasiniskas, who also entered the United States in 1939, and has filed an application for the adjustment of her status to permanent residence on the basis of her residence in this country for more than 7 years. Miss Vailokaitis has one married brother who resides in Canada. Since her arrival in this country she has been employed on a part-time basis in Mr. McClain's real-estate office without salary. During the summer months of 1949, she helped her mother conduct a rooming house in Atlantic City.

The quota for Lithuania to which Miss Vailokaitis is chargeable is over subscribed and an immigration visa is not readily obtainable. The record presents no facts, however, which would justify granting her an exemption from the requirements of the immigration law. In recent years many aliens have entered the United States as temporary visitors and thereafter endeavored to remain permanently. The enactment of special legislation in Miss Vailokaitis' behalf would undoubtedly encourage others, in whose cases immigration visas are not readily obtainable to seek exemption from the general immigration law.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of the bill.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,  
*Deputy Attorney General.*

Mr. Hand, the author of this measure, wrote to Mr. Walter, the chairman of a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary, and urged the enactment of this bill. Mr. Hand's letter, with enclosure, reads as follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, D. C., May 31, 1951.

Hon. FRANCIS E. WALTER,  
*House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR COLLEAGUE: Referring to our conversation of this morning, I am enclosing a quite complete statement referring to the Vailokaitis family and to Ramute Vailokaitis, the subject of H. R. 677. I am sending it just as it came to me without any modification, so you can have the complete and frank picture. The enclosure was prepared by William McClain, who married one of the sisters. McClain is a natural-born citizen of excellent standing in his home community in Vineland, N. J., and is a partner in a very substantial real-estate business.

I particularly call to your attention the paragraph on page 2, which indicates that, but for the outbreak of war, the family would probably all have been here in 1942 or thereabouts. Along with this enclosure, I send you the photostat of the application for visa corroborating this.

I am personally acquainted with Ramute Vailokaitis and with her mother, Alexandra Vailokaitis, and I know of my own knowledge that this family was a leading family in Lithuania with very substantial estates which were confiscated by the Communist authorities. In appearance, character, and reputation, and in every respect, these are first-class people and will be, in my judgment, in every way qualified for citizenship in the United States.

If desirable, I can produce further and convincing evidence and will be delighted to testify myself if needed. As I have already explained to you, I would most certainly appear on June 4 in any event except that I have an appointment with the Governor of New Jersey involving matters of great importance in my district, and I cannot very well avoid that commitment. I shall return to Washington the following day, if you should want me for any reason.

Thank you again for your always ready courtesy and helpfulness.

Sincerely,

MILLET HAND, M. C.

MAY 1, 1951.

Re: Immigration of Ramute Vailokaitis.

Hon. Congressman T. MILLET HAND,  
*Congress of the United States, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

DEAR MILLET: In answer to your letter, I submit below a chronological history of the Vailokaitis family. All persons referred to are of the Roman Catholic religion, and belong to the Christian Democrat political party.

Mr. Vailokaitis' father's first name is Motiejus, and his mother's name is Petronele. He owned and operated a 350-acre farm and was considered well to do. There were eight children from this marriage.

1. A son, Antanas Vailokaitis, succeeded his father as a farmer. His property was confiscated by the U. S. S. R. When last heard of in 1940, he was still living in Lithuania.

2. A son, Juazas Vailokaitis, was a doctor of theology, and a priest of the Roman Catholic Church. His property was also confiscated by the U. S. S. R., and he was taken to Siberia in 1940. Since then nothing has been heard of him.

3. A son, Viktoras Vailokaitis, was a professor. He was still living in Lithuania when last heard from in 1944, but had lost his position at the university.

4. A son, Pranas Vailokaitis, was a lawyer, who died in the year 1921.

5. A daughter, Ona Vailokaitis, married a farmer and died in the year 1938.

6. A daughter, Petronele Vailokaitis, married a farmer. Their property was confiscated by the U. S. S. R., and all of the family were taken to Siberia in 1940. Since then nothing has been heard from them.

7. A daughter, Agota Vailokaitis, married a farmer. Nothing more is known of her.

Mrs. Vailokaitis' father's name was Alexander Jurasaitis, and her mother's name was Maria Jurasaitis, who were considered well to do. Mr. Jurasaitis owned a lithographing business. There were four children of this marriage.

1. A daughter, Maria, died as a young girl.

2. A daughter, Alena, was a portrait painter, who married a professor of a Lithuanian university. When last heard of, she was still in Lithuania.

3. A son, Nikalojus, was a bank director of the Bank of Lithuania. He disappeared from Lithuania in 1944 and has not been heard from since that time.

In the list of children, I omitted Ramute's father and mother so that I could go more into detail. Jonas Vailokaitis was born in 1886 in Lithuania, then a part of Russia. He was educated in economics at St. Petersburg University. In 1919 he married Aleksandra Jurasaitis. He was active in securing Lithuania's independence from Russia, and was one of the signers of the Lithuanian declaration of independence in 1918. Mr. Vailokaitis was in the Parliament of the new Government and was instrumental in setting up the monetary system for the country. Most of the remainder of his life was spent in bringing industry to Lithuania. The only non-Government steel mill in the country was owned by him. Brick factories were also owned by him, as well as banks in every city of the country. Four children were born of this marriage: A daughter, Danute, 1919; a daughter Birute 1921; a daughter Ramute, 1924; and, a son, Jonas, 1925.

In the year 1940 Mr. and Mrs. Vailokaitis and son, Jonas, and daughter Ramute, fled Lithuania as the country was being occupied by the Soviet Union. They entered Germany and applied for immigration visas to the United States of America, in the same year. After a 2-year waiting period, they received a registration number (believed to be, by memory, 51-111 or 53-111), and were notified to report to the American consul in Berlin on a certain date and time, to receive their immigration visas. The consulate, however, was closed 2 days before the time they were to appear. (I am enclosing a photostatic copy of the application for immigration.) This application also includes Ramute Vailokaitis. Until I started to gather this information, I did not know that they had applied for a visa to the United States. Presumably, the United States State Department would still have a file on the Vailokaitis family; and I am wondering if it would change the complexion of the case if the State Department had, at one time, O. K.'d immigration visa for Ramute Vailokaitis. Because of the closing of the consulate, they were forced to remain in Germany for the duration of the war. All the property in Lithuania was confiscated by the Soviet Government.

Birute Vailokaitis came to the United States on a visitor's visa in 1939. She married William McClain, an American citizen, and became an American citizen herself. Danute married Jonas Jasinskis and came to the United States in 1939 on a diplomatic visa. They are still residing in the United States. Alexandra Vailokaitis came from Germany to the United States in 1947 on a preference visa, and immediately took out first papers. The son, Jonas Vailokaitis, migrated to Canada along with the daughter Ramute. Jonas remained in Canada while Ramute came to the United States on a visitor's visa which she had extended. During this extension, you instituted a bill to be put in Congress to allow her to apply for immigration. She has been residing in the United States, awaiting the outcome of that bill.

If there is any other information with which I may supply you, please let me know. Thank you for past assistance.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM MCCLAIN.

The committee, upon consideration of all the facts in this case, is of the opinion that H. R. 677, as amended, should be enacted and it accordingly recommends that the bill do pass.

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